

WAR DECLARED!

ACTIVE HOSTILITIES TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY.

ACTION OF THE CORPS LEGISLATIVE—THE FRENCH PEOPLE UNANIMOUS FOR WAR—AUSTRIA PROTESTS NEUTRALITY.

PARIS, Friday, July 15, 1870—3 p. m.

The Corps Legislatif declared war against Prussia at 10 minutes before 2 this afternoon.

An extra edition of the *Constitutionnel*, issued at noon, announced that in consequence of the insult offered to Benedetti (the French Minister), France accepted the war which Prussia offers.

Holland will remain neutral in the struggle.

The belligerents have engaged to respect the neutrality of Belgium, yet troops are rapidly concentrating at Antwerp and other strategic points. The specie and bullion in the National Bank at Antwerp have been removed to the citadel. An issue of paper money is announced.

Many demonstrations in favor of war were made by the people during the night. Crowds of students and others paraded the streets and boulevards, shouting, "Vive war!" "Down with Prussia," &c. Some persons who protested were hissed and insulted. The police did not interfere. The crowd stopped at the Prussian Embassy and shouted insultingly. It is asserted that the Prussian Ambassador leaves Paris to-day.

Austria professes neutrality, unless a third Power intervenes.

The excitement in the city is very great to-day. No opposition to war is manifested by any class of citizens. Rentes have advanced to 66 francs.

La Liberté reports that great bodies of troops were put in motion last night for the frontier, and that the Emperor will soon take the field in person. It is reported on the best authority that an angry interview occurred to-day, between the Emperor and Prince Minister Ollivier, growing out of the latter's known disposition for peace. The Emperor violently denounced Ollivier's efforts in this direction.

The movements of troops toward the Rhine frontier is incessant. Eastern France is absolutely alive with soldiers. The troops which have hitherto garrisoned Paris have gone, and the raw levies are slowly replacing them. Ambulances and caissons throng the streets of the city, on their route to the East.

Fourteen iron-clad and frigates are ready to start from Brest and Cherbourg.

After the Council at the Tuilleries, the Ministers accompanied the Emperor to St. Cloud last night, where the Council was resumed, and lasted far into the night.

It is asserted that the Baron Von Werther was on the point of starting again for Ems yesterday, when a Prussian messenger arrived here with counter orders.

Marshal Randon has gone to Algeria to take command of the Province, in place of Marshal MacMahon.

The *Gazette* says the Minister of Austria to Berlin is now in Paris, and has had an interview with the Emperor.

It is reported that the Emperor received a dispatch from Queen Victoria this morning making a last appeal for peace, and a similar dispatch was also sent from London to the King of Prussia.

A proclamation, it is said, signed by Napoleon, has been prepared for distribution throughout the German States as soon as the French troops have crossed the frontier. It assures the German people that France was against Prussia, not against Germany, and with no idea of conquest. An enormous number of copies have already been printed.

THE BASES OF THE FRENCH DECLARATION OF WAR—THE RECOLLECTIONS OF 1814 AWAKENED—THE VICTORS OF JENA TO CROSS THE RHINE—A CIRCULAR FROM BISMARCK.

LONDON, Friday, July 15, 1870.

The French declaration of war is based on the following causes:

First: The insult offered at Ems to Count Benedetti, the French Minister, and its approval by the Prussian Government.

Second: The refusal of the King of Prussia to compel the withdrawal of Prince Leopold's name as a candidate for the Spanish throne.

Third: The fact that the King persisted in giving the Prince liberty to accept the crown.

The declaration concludes as follows:

"The extraordinary constitutional changes in Prussia awaken the slumbering recollections of 1814. Let us cross the Rhine and avenge the insults of Prussia. The victors of Jena survive."

Count Von Bismarck has issued a circular, which has been telegraphed in all directions, informing German vessels to hasten to ports of shelter. The notification, of course, applies to all ocean steamers belonging to German ports.

THE PRUSSIAN DIET IN SESSION—UNLIMITED CREDIT VOTED TO THE KING.

BERLIN, Friday, July 15, 1870.

The Bundesrath of the North German Confederation met here to-day. The Prussian Diet is already in session. The chiefs of all parties assure the King of their unqualified approval of his dignified and energetic attitude.

A resolution was adopted according unlimited credit for the national defence.

The King of Saxony has abandoned his long planned tour, and remains at Dresden.

THE DUKE OF GRAMMONT'S DECLARATION TO THE SENATE—POINTS OF THE RECENT NEGOTIATIONS.

PARIS, Friday, July 15, 1870—Evening.

The following is the text of the declaration made by the Duke of Grammont before the Senate to-day:

MESSEURS: The manner in which the country received our declaration on the 6th of July led us to commence negotiations with Prussia to secure her recognition of the validity of our grievances. We did not wish to trammel, nor with the Prince of Hohenzollern, whom we consider to be under the shadow of the King; nor have we advanced any other grievance than the candidacy of the Prince for the Spanish throne.

The Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs opposed to us a determination not to receive our representation, pretending to ignore the affair. We then addressed ourselves to the King, who maintained that he was a stranger to the affair, and that he could not intervene except as head of the family, but he avowed that he had instructed Bismarck. We could not accept that answer, and we demanded that the King should influence the Prince of Hohenzollern. *Resignation (in the project) came from the quarter*

where it was least expected. We then demanded that the King should give a promise for the future. This moderate demand, made in moderate terms, we declared to be without any reservation. The King declined to say that he would refuse in future to interfere with the candidature, and he refused to authorize us to transmit to you the declaration that he would in future oppose the candidature. He declared that he reserved to himself the right to consider the circumstances. Even after this refusal we did not break off the negotiations, but adjourned our explanations to you until this date. Yesterday we were apprised that the King of Prussia had informed our Ambassador that he would not longer receive him, and to render the rupture more obvious, he gave notice of his action to the Cabinets of Europe. At the same time, he announced that Werther might take leave, and that the armaments of Prussia had commenced. On our part, we yesterday called on the reserves, and we have taken such other measures as the interest and honor of the country demanded. A copy of this declaration has been presented to the Corps Legislatif by Monsieur, the keeper of the seals. The Government asks a vote of supplies, and the call to arms of all classes, owing military service.

The Corps Legislatif has voted the extreme demands of the Government, the Left voting in the negative.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF THE PRUSSIAN FORCES—PARTICULARS OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF COUNT BENEDETTI.

BERLIN, Friday, July 15, 1870.

The *North-German Gazette* says there is much activity at the Prussian ports, and that the authorities are placing them in a state of defence.

The same journal has a dispatch from Ems to-day giving the particulars of the withdrawal of Benedetti. It seems he accepted the King of Prussia while the latter was drinking the mineral waters, demanding peremptorily his intentions on the pending trouble. He was therefore dismissed immediately.

COUNT BENEDETTI RECALLED AT THE DEMAND OF PRUSSIA—THE EXCITEMENT IN ENGLAND—BUSINESS SUSPENDED.

LONDON, Friday, July 15, 1870—Evening.

It is reported that the Prussian Government itself demanded of France the recall of her Minister, Count Benedetti, and that the European Powers yesterday united in a protest against the implacability of Prussia, but without effect.

The excitement arising from the situation has been intense here all day. Business was at a standstill, and commercial quotations are quite nominal. People collected in groups in the streets and discussed the news. After 7 o'clock hours markets were generally firmer, and American securities were steady, but prices nominal.

At the exchanges of Europe the prices of securities are generally at the lowest point yet reached. At Paris at 11½ last night the Bourse was excited, and rent fell to 67 francs. At Frankfurt the United States Fifty-Two bonds closed yesterday at 88, against 90½ the usual price; and at the London Exchange this morning, stocks and foreign securities opened flat and nominal at a heavy decline.

THE WAR NEWS IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT—STATEMENT OF MR. GLADSTONE.

LONDON, Friday, July 15, 1870—p. m.

Mr. Disraeli, in the House of Commons, asked the Government for an expression of its opinion on the Continental disturbances. He could not believe in the nineteenth century a war of succession possible, in view of our elevated tendencies and wide sympathies. Many causes of jealousy, discontent and distrust had risen between the two Powers, and were now brought to a precipitate decision.

Mr. Gladstone denied that there was any sufficient ground for trouble, and added that the causes were unit for discussion. Neither Power had declined friendly intervention. He referred to the provisions made by the Congress of Paris for arbitration, but belligerents were yet unwilling to accept them. He still hoped there would be an opportunity for a renewed effort to mediate, which should be eagerly seized.

GEN. PRIM TO BE SUPERSEDED.

PARIS, Friday, July 15, 1870.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Sole* predicts that Gen. Prim will be superseded by Señor Zorilla or Gen. de Cordoba.

PREPARATIONS IN HOLLAND—A NEW FOREIGN MINISTER.

THE HAGUE, Friday, July 15, 1870.

Orders have been issued for the mobilization of the army.

J. R. Thorbecke has been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in place of Dr. Roest van Limburg.

INEFFECTUAL REMONSTRANCES AGAINST WAR.

VIENNA, Friday, July 15, 1870.

The Governments of Austria, England, Italy, and Russia are known to have presented at Paris urgent remonstrances against war.

SPAIN TO REMAIN NEUTRAL IN THE CONTEST—A DISPATCH TO THE U. S. GOVERNMENT.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The Spanish Minister called to-day on the Secretary of State at the Capitol and made to him the following communication, which shows that Spain will remain neutral in the coming contest:

MADRID, July 15, 1870.

From the Minister of State to the Representative of Spain at Washington: The President of the Council of Ministers has received from Prince of Hohenzollern the following telegram, namely:

On account of the complications which seem to grow out of the fact that my son Leopold is a candidate for the throne of Spain and on account of the troubled situation which the late events have made for the Spanish people, in placing them in a position where they are controlled by their national feelings, and as I am satisfied that under such circumstances their suffrage would not be free and spontaneous as my son has been led to believe in consenting to be a candidate, I withdraw him in his own name.

PRINCE OF HONOLAND.

The Government, grateful to the Prince of Hohenzollern for the justice he is thus rendering the Spanish people, respects his name, and they consider that there is no reason for carrying on the measures that had been agreed upon for the election of the monarch. The *Gazette* will publish this very day an order from the President of the Cortes suspending the call for the session on the 20th inst., which was published in *The Gazette* of the 9th inst. Communicate to the United States Government the contents of this dispatch.

THE DECLARATION OF WAR ANNOUNCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The Speaker laid before the House a dispatch just received from Paris by the Associated Press, announcing the declaration in the Paris *Constitutionnel*, that in consequence of the insult offered to the French Minister at Ems, France accepts war, which Prussia offers.

It caused great sensation, and there were indications of satisfaction.

THE MILITARY AND NAVAL RESOURCES OF FRANCE.

ARMY.

The following statement shows the strength of the French army when on a peace footing, and the immense increase it can attain in the event of war, by calling in the troops on leave, in reserve, or otherwise exempted from service in garrison:

	PEACE FOOTING.	WAR FOOTING.
Men	1,773,160	1,841,200
Infantry	1,282,000	1,348,000
Cavalry	62,700	68,000
Artillery	26,800	28,000
Engineers	7,400	8,000
Medicals	24,500	26,000
Troops in garrison	15,000	16,000

Total.....1,942,200

The Infantry, in the above statement of the army on a peace footing, comprises 124 regiments, the cavalry 60 regiments and one squadron, and the artillery 29 regiments. The full military strength of France is very great, but indeterminate, owing to the military training which the entire adult male population of the country

receives, and which renders them all liable to serve. The military forces consist of three divisions, namely: the "active army," the "army of reserve," and the "National Guard Mobile." The active army as enumerated amounts to 404,102, the army of reserve to 400,000, and the National Guard, when fully organized, to 838,728 men, making a total force of 1,642,830 soldiers. The French Army Corps are distributed and commanded as follows:

1. First Army.....	Marshal Canrobert
2. Second Army.....	Count Ladmirault
3. Third Army.....	Marshal Bazaine
4. Fourth Army.....	Count d'Albion
5. Fifth Army.....	Count Baraguey d'Hilliers
6. Sixth Army.....	Gen. Goyon
7. Seventh Army.....	Marshal McMahon

NAVY.

The entire reorganization of the French Navy was ordered by the Government in 1855, and has since been vigorously carried forward. Proving by the proof of the superiority of iron-clad vessels afforded by our war, France has paid special attention to the improvement of her navy in that respect. At the commencement of this year she had 62 iron-clad, 264 unarmored screw steamers, 82 paddle steamers, and 113 sailing vessels. The following gives a statement of the number of vessels of each class, their horse-power, and armament, after official returns:

Class of vessel.	No.	Horse-power.	Guns.
1. Iron-clads.....	2	1,900	62
2. Screw steamers.....	264	16,800	386
3. Paddle steamers.....	82	10,100	195
4. Frigates.....	24	7,500	124
5. Corvettes.....	63	8,575	173
6. Gunboats.....	18	1,971	35
7. Transports.....	47	10,700	140
8. Special boats.....	10	500	22

Total iron-clads.....	62	29,150	673
Total screw steamers.....	264	16,800	386
Total paddle steamers.....	82	10,100	195
Total frigates.....	24	7,500	124
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ferent grades. The sailors, afloat and on shore, numbered 39,346 in 1869, which together with engineers, dock-yard laborers, navy surgeons, and others connected with the force, bring the grand total of men engaged in the ser-